

A School for Peace and Prosperity • Fast Track Recruiting

The Official U.S. Army Magazine

February 2004
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Soldiers



Toward
the Future
Force

New Hot Topics
Pullout
PAGE 9



Cover Story - Page 3

Army Chief GEN Peter J. Schoomaker greets Soldiers from the Fort Riley, Kan.,-based 1st Bn., 41st Inf. upon their return from Iraq.
— SPC Ryan Wood.

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Soldiers | February 2004 | Vol



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Page 10



Page 20



Page 26



Page 46

Features

Toward the Future Force 3
 Army Chief of Staff GEN Peter J. Schoomaker outlines his and other senior leaders' focus areas in developing tomorrow's Army.

A Respite From War 10
 Soldiers supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom are seeing improvements in their quality of life.

- Staying Mission-Ready 14
 Maintaining a high level of readiness is critical for Operation Iraqi Freedom commanders.

- Troop Update 19
 The latest deployments to Iraq are intended to reduce the number of Soldiers in the region and speed the turnover of authority to the Iraqi people.

Warfighter Challenge 20
 Competing teams gathered at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., for the annual Warfighter Challenge.

2004 Monthly Basic Pay Table 24
 Here are the pay rates for all ranks, based on both grade and time in service.

A School for Peace and Prosperity 26
 Lessons learned at the George C. Marshall Center have a positive impact on the security and economic development of the European community.

- A Meeting of the Minds 32
 Marshall Center conferences focus on lawmakers, think-tanks and universities specializing in national defense and nongovernmental organizations.

Fast Track Recruiting 46
 Recruiting new soldiers can be a challenge, so the Army Accessions Command sought help from America's fastest-growing sport.

Departments

- 6 On Point
- 34 Postmarks
- 36 Sharp Shooters
- 40 Army History *New*
- 42 Lifestyles
- 44 Legal Forum
- 48 Focus on People

THE **Soldiers** magazine staff is pleased to introduce a new department, beginning this month and running each issue in 2004. A countdown of events that happened each month in Army history, the article begins on page 40 and is authored by COL Raymond K. Bluhm Jr. (Ret.). COL Blum is an officer of the Army History Foundation, and it was his chapter on Army history that appeared in the popular book "The Army" that prompted **Soldiers** to ask him to contribute this monthly column.

As the War on Terror continues, SFC Al Betancourt continues to find dramatic images from Iraq and Afghanistan, which appear in "On Point," beginning on page 6; and he also reports on conditions in Iraq, in stories that begin on page 10. But the Army is bringing peace and stability to other parts of the world, including Liberia. For a look at activities of the U.S. Army Southern European Task Force in that African nation, check the images appearing in Sharp Shooters, beginning on page 36.



Page 36

Then, for a look at the Army's involvement in the world of NASCAR racing, read SPC Bill Putnam's "Fast Track Recruiting," on page 46. A frequent contributor to **Soldiers**, SPC Putnam is a member of the Washington National Guard and will soon deploy to Iraq.

Gil High

Gil High
Managing Editor



Soldiers

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2003



One of GEN Peter J. Schoomaker's first acts after becoming the Army chief of staff was to make a first-hand assessment of the situation in Iraq.

Toward the Future Force

Story by
Heike Hasenauer

“THE Army has never failed the American people, and it never will,” **Army Chief of Staff GEN Peter J. Schoomaker** has said.

In recent comments to media representatives, he outlined areas on which he and other senior Army officials are focusing their attention, to ensure that the Army remains a relevant and ready force in the future.

≡ The “Warrior Ethos”

At the forefront will be efforts to develop Soldiers with what Schoomaker calls a “Warrior Ethos.”

“To defend the nation, we have to be prepared to fight and win on the battlefield,” he said. “Central to that is the Soldier, and the fact that the Soldier must be a warrior first — able to protect himself, live in the field and understand the fundamental function of the Army.”

For the warrior, “the mission is paramount,” Schoomaker said. “Soldiers never quit, no matter how tough a situation becomes, never accept defeat and never leave a comrade behind. Those things incorporate the values of the Army and the values of the nation.”

Schoomaker said he will also work toward providing more stability, continuity and predictability to Soldiers and their families.



SGT Shawn Woodward

One of GEN Schoomaker's focus areas involves refocusing training to better address current Army needs.

While Soldiers continue to serve in 120 countries around the world, Army leaders are re-examining doctrine, training and weapon systems, and will make necessary adjustments.

Those adjustments are largely contingent upon how the Army fights the war on terror — a war in which the tactics, techniques and equipment used during the Cold War are no longer relevant, Schoomaker said.

Today the enemy isn't a single political regime, person, religion or ideology, according to National Security Strategy, the senior leaders' vision of how the Army will provide combat commanders with forces and capabilities they'll need in the future.

≡ Increasing the Force

The question of boosting the Army's current collective strength of over one million active-duty and reserve-component soldiers — which some officials have said would ease the burden on reserve-component soldiers pulling year-long tours in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom — “is a very difficult question that has far-reaching implications,” Schoomaker said.

“There's a lot we have to do internally to be able to use the force structure we already have,” he continued. “What we don't want to do is add

more people to a force that might not be able to support the additions.”

Necessary funding is critical to ensure the Army can support a larger force with training, equipment and logistics, Schoomaker said. In a scenario in which the Army adds one or two divisions, such a move could take two years. The allocation of defense funds could change dramatically during that time, he said.

One result could be that the Army would have to support a large force structure without the assistance it's now getting through supplemental funding, Schoomaker said. The Army would then not have enough money to pay for things like ammunition, fuel and modernization.

≡ The Army He Knew

“That's the kind of Army I entered,” he said. “When I first came in, we didn't have enough fuel to move 50 miles a month or enough money to PCS people. We had to make choices between conducting tank gunnery and heating barracks.” Those would be the kinds of choices commanders would have to make if the

Army “went back to a so-called ‘hollow’ army, an army of many people without the structure to support it. We want to make sure we organize ourselves first, in a way that allows us to make the most of what we have.”

≡ Focusing on Change

In a recent paper titled “The Way Ahead,” senior leaders identified 16 focus areas. Among them are:

- ✓ Refocusing training to better address current Army needs.

- ✓ Designing “modular” units: Ready-to-deploy specific assets for specific missions, composed of Soldiers and leaders who train, deploy and redeploy together.

Stabilizing the force in such a way could result in longer home-station assignments — five to seven years rather than two to three — and allow families to invest in homes, spouses to seek more permanent employment and kids to stay longer in the same schools.

“We're trying to slow down the movement within the Army,” Schoomaker said. “We're working with 3rd Infantry Division to begin modularizing and stabilizing the force. As we reset forces redeploying from Iraqi Freedom, we'll do that with more units.”

Schoomaker said that several years from now, after the Army “relooks the whole global reposturing issue, a majority of the Army in the continental United States will probably rotate to deployments and then return to the



SFC William Armstrong

While in Iraq, the chief of staff met with community leaders as well as commanders and troops on the ground.



LTC Michael Negard

Accompanied by LTC Gary E. Luck Jr., the new chief of staff observes live-fire training at Fort Stewart, Ga.

continental United States.”

≡ More Focus Areas

The senior leaders’ other focus areas include:

- ✓ Redesigning the force to optimize the active-duty and reserve-component mix of Soldiers.
- ✓ Enhancing the capability of installations to deploy Soldiers and support families.
- ✓ Creating a Soldier mindset that the Army is an indispensable member of a joint-services’ team first, and a single service-component second.
- ✓ Providing commanders more accurate and timely intelligence information.
- ✓ Placing more emphasis on future generations of senior leaders, by identifying junior officers and NCOs for key positions within joint, inter-agency, multinational and service organizations.
- ✓ Reviewing requirements for and capabilities of Army aviation assets.
- ✓ Accelerating the fielding of select “Future Force” capabilities.

≡ Deciding to Return

Some observers have wondered why Schoomaker, who retired in December 2000 as commander in chief of U.S. Special Operations Command, chose to return to active duty.

“We’re a nation at war,” Schoomaker said. “When I look at what our Soldiers, civilians and the joint forces are involved in, there was no way I could turn down the assignment.

“I have Army in my blood,” said Schoomaker. His father served for 32 years. His brother has served for about 25 years, and his 19-year-old daughter is in her second year of ROTC.

Schoomaker said the quality of the Soldiers he’s met in his travels across the Army has “reinforced the wisdom of my decision to come back.

“War has a way of focusing things. One of the things is the goodness that arises in Soldiers. They quickly understand that being downrange in a hostile environment isn’t about what to think, but how to think — how to solve problems and focus on the things that matter,” Schoomaker said.

≡ The Human Element

“We’ve got a very well-led Army, at all levels. Our officer and noncommissioned officer training programs have paid big dividends,” he added. “Our training programs and equipment are all coming to fruition, and they make us the best army in the world.

“My measuring stick, though, isn’t whether we’re the best army in the world, but whether we’re the best army we could be,” Schoomaker said.

“Combat is fundamentally a human endeavor, and the thinking, adaptive, well-trained Soldier will overcome all kinds of disadvantages, including shortages of personnel and equipment. So the investment in the quality of individuals is the real investment we need to make,” he said.

“Part of the Army’s transformation effort is transforming from specialization to a more adaptive, broader-range capability in terms of people,” he said. “We’re looking for individuals who don’t just specialize in one area, but are capable of doing a wide range of things with a great deal of skill.”

≡ Building the Concept

“We’ll continue to be an army that

Schoomaker says the quality of Soldiers he has met has reinforced his decision to return to active duty.

can go toe to toe with the most capable enemies,” he said. But the Army must develop joint and expeditionary views, to transition to combat faster.

“It’s not about making everything lighter, but bringing more capability, in lighter packages, to the fight,” Schoomaker said.

“It means we’ll have to leverage more of our joint-service capability early in the fight, as we build the campaign. We saw some of that in Iraqi Freedom; we started the fight with a force that was much smaller than the one that finished the fight.

“The Army’s a long way from where it needs to be in the joint-service arena,” Schoomaker said. “But I think we have a good start.” The Joint Chiefs are working on joint operational concepts that will shape the functions each service will perform, he said.

“What we’re really asking,” Schoomaker said, “is how we can start the fight at a greater distance from home and conclude it early, without having to commit our entire force to do it.”

Keeping the Army relevant and ready “is all about anticipation,” Schoomaker said. “It’s not about preparing for yesterday’s challenges.” 📧







Afghanistan

Soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division unload computer equipment from a CH-47 Chinook helicopter near Gereshk.

— Photo by SPC Isaac Scruggs



▲ **Afghanistan**

SGT Marty Newton of the 982nd Signal Company shares a digital photo with some Afghan children.

— Photo by SPC Isaac Scruggs

▼ Kosovo

Camp Bondsteel's medical personnel treat a simulated car bomb victim during Exercise Falcon Watch, which tested the reaction times of emergency-services personnel.

— Photo by SSG Jonathan Cole



▲ Iraq

A Soldier from the 173rd Airborne Brigade removes sand blocking the entrance to a suspected weapons cache during a cordon-and-search operation.

— Photo by SPC Clinton Tarzia



▲ Iraq

Soldiers of the 21st Combat Support Hospital move a simulated casualty during a combat medic challenge in Mosul.

— Photo by SPC Joshua M. Risner

iraqi: A Respite f



From War

Story and Photos by SFC Alberto Betancourt

THE Tigris River flows peacefully through the heart of Iraq, a stark contrast to the gunshots and loud blasts from rocket-propelled grenades and improvised explosive devices that echo in the distance. For the Soldiers supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom, these types of contrasts are common. But today, as potential danger lurks around every corner, continual improvements are giving Soldiers some respite from the realities of war.

Commanders in Iraq tasked their senior NCOs to improve the quality of life and establish morale, welfare and recreation programs for the nearly 130,000 Soldiers in Iraq.

The challenge was immense, but the NCOs were dauntless. Since President George W. Bush declared an end to major combat operations in Iraq on May 21, Iraqis looted, burned and destroyed many of the buildings American units would eventually occupy. Using their ingenuity and a lot of sweat, the Soldiers transformed uninhabitable structures into living and recreation areas.

Mosul

"This is great," SGT Juan Ferrer said while sitting in the shade of an umbrella and eating ice cream at a sidewalk bistro at Mosul Airport, site of the 101st Airborne Division's rear headquarters.

Ferrer is from the division's 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment. He said the quality of life has improved ➤

▲ This slow currents of the Tigris River are a striking contrast to the dangers that Soldiers face each day as they perform their missions in Iraq.

➤ Soldiers from the 101st Abn. Div.'s 1st Bn., 327th Inf. Regt., enjoy ice cream and soda at a sidewalk bistro located at Mosul Airport.





▲ The phone center at Mosul Airport is in constant use by Soldiers living at the airport who use the center to call family and friends at home.

▲ A soldier from 1st Bn., 502nd Inf. Regt., relaxes inside the 101st Abn. Div.'s Strike Inn. The inn serves as an R&R site.

tremendously. He once slept wherever he could find a place to rest his head. Now he sleeps on a cot and enjoys electricity and the security of a stable roof over his head.

"These little improvements make it easier for me to be here doing my job," he said.

CSM Mike Merkle of the 561st Corps Support Bn. said his mission was to create a comfortable environment at the airport, where nearly 6,000 Soldiers live.

With the help of some local Iraqis,





Soldiers living at Mosul Airport frequently visit Main Taineer Cafe for pizza, burgers or roast chicken. Local Iraqis operate the cafe.

Merkle led the building of an MWR site where Soldiers can use the Internet, play pool and table tennis, watch movies in a small theater, or just read and relax in the library. They also built a phone center, a small café, an Iraqi gift shop, barbershop, sidewalk bistro and an Iraqi-operated restaurant where Soldiers can get brick oven-baked pizza. The airport also has two post exchanges and two dining facilities.

"The improvements have helped the Soldiers relax once they come off duty," Merkle said. "They know they'll eventually go home, but I'm going to make it comfortable for them while they're here."

Ferrer said the Army has put forth a tremendous effort to improve conditions at the airport. But, no matter how great the improvements, they won't distract from the mission.

"We understand our mission, and we stay focused," he said. "A little ice cream along the way doesn't hurt."

Approximately 20 minutes from the airport, in the eastern part of Mosul, a former Iraqi hospital is home to the division's 2nd Brigade.

"When we got here you could tell



the buildings had been on fire, the windows were blown out and the rooms were full of trash," said SPC Stephanie Jakus of the 311th Military Intelligence Bn. "It took a lot of work to make this place livable. But we knew this would be our temporary home, so we cleaned it up."

Jakus' unit now has several computers with Internet connections, televisions, phone lines, fans, air-conditioning units and running water. "It was a heroic moment when the showers and the toilets began working," she said.

And although she appreciates the availability of the Internet, which she uses periodically at a cost of \$1 for 20 minutes, she still prefers the old-fashioned way of communicating with her family by writing letters.

"I'm very proud to be part of this historic mission," she said, "I'm here

to help and am going to make the best of my deployment here."

SGM William Plemmons, from 2nd Bde.'s operations section, said creating rest-and-recuperation sites was also a priority.

"We've established several different locations where 101st Abn. Div. Soldiers can go to relax for a couple of days," he said. "The rest environment allows them some 'cool-down' time from constant missions."

One of those locations is the

Strike Inn. The building sits on the bank of the Tigris River and resembles a Beverly Hills mansion, with marble floors and a large patio, a sprawling back yard with a rose garden, a boat dock and elaborate rooms.

Plemmons said the house belonged to Saddam Hussein's brother, who used it for parties.

"This place is beautiful," said SGT William Holmes of the 326th Engineer Bn. while using one of four

"This place is beautiful," said SGT William Holmes of the 326th Engineer Bn. while using one of four Internet computers set up at the Strike Inn. "



The 101st Abn. Div.'s MWR building named "The Club" serves as an Internet cafe, restaurant and phone center.





◀ The indoor heated pool inside the 4th Inf. Div.'s Iron Horse Resort is one of the favorite places for the division's Soldiers.

▶ Soldiers from the 101st Abn. Div. crowd into the phone center at Mosul Airport to keep in touch with family and friends.

Internet computers set up at the Strike Inn. "I can relax, take a hot shower and watch TV. This is a good morale booster. It recharges you, so you can go back to the line refreshed and focused."

Q-West or "Key West" as the 101st

Soldiers call it, sits on the Western side of Mosul, nearly 45 minutes away from the city. This is where the division's 1st Bde lives, and the heart of the large compound is "The Club."

"It serves as our 'everything' facility," said SPC Darrel Garrett from

2nd Bn., 327th Inf. Regt. "It's a café, a phone center with six phone lines and an Internet café with 25 computers."

Garrett said having communication capabilities really boosts morale.

"Soldiers are in a great mood after using the Internet or the phone to 'chat' or talk with loved ones," he said. "It lets them temporarily get away from the serious mission at hand."

Tikrit

Along the Tigris River in Iraq's central region, 4th Inf. Div.'s headquarters occupies a 119-building, ▶

rad: Staying Mission-Ready

Story and Photos by SFC Alberto Betancourt

M AINTAINING a high-level of readiness is an important mission for the commanders supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Since President George W. Bush declared an end to major combat operations in Iraq, many tanks, Bradley fighting vehicles and Paladin self-propelled howitzers have been idle as their crews took on new missions — patrolling Iraq's streets, manning traffic-control points and performing raids in search of insurgents.

Butler Range serves as the 1st Armor Div.'s weapons qualifying site.

Down on the Range

In order to maintain their skills and meet the Army's weapons-qualification standard's, the 1st Armored Division built Butler Range Complex about 40 minutes from Baghdad. Named for SGT Jacob L. Butler, the first division Soldier to die supporting OIF, the range allows Soldiers to

qualify on everything from tank main guns to aircraft weapons and small arms.

"The Army requires us to qualify with our weapons every six months," said CPT Lance Pearce, commander of the Missouri National Guard's Company A, 203rd Engineer Battalion. "We know we'll be on the ground





for a year, so we didn't want our heavy-mechanized crews to be idle that long. We're also meeting Army standard."

SFC William Courchen, the 1st AD Bradley master gunner, said division units go to the range for 8-day rotations.

"We've created a six-month calendar that allows all our units to rotate through Butler Range Complex," he said.

As a master gunner, Courchen knows it's important to get the crews back into their routines.

"We need to get them back into the

turrets and sharpen their crew coordination and get their firing proficiency back," he said.

Besides allowing the big gun operators to qualify, the range can accommodate squad live-fire exercises. A convoy live-fire lane with buildings facades that have pop-up targets allows Soldiers to drive and shoot.

The range is controlled by civilian contractors supported by a cadre of permanent-party Soldiers.

Improved Humvees

In Mosul, a few battle-readiness improvements have helped 101st Airborne Division Soldiers perform their missions more safely.

"We wanted the enemy to know we have a lot of firepower, especially on our Humvees," said CSM Mike Merkle of the 561st Corps Support Battalion. "So we designed an elevated, telescoping gun mount that allows all the division's 'cruiser weapons' to fit on the Humvees. We



Soldiers weld steel plates onto the back gate of a 5-ton truck to add greater personnel protection to the vehicle.





TVs and refrigerators purchased at the PX bring a personal touch to Soldiers' living environments.

now have about 200 of the mounts.”

The gun mount's base plate is made of steel and covers the entire bed of the Humvee to provide additional protection against improvised explosive devices or mines.

Because the division's infantrymen go out every night on missions and are transported on the back of 5-ton trucks, Merkle wanted to improve their survivability.

“The 5-ton truck's design has all the seats facing inward,” he said. “So we created an adapter that allows the seats to face outward.”

Merkle said the Soldiers feel a lot more comfortable now because they're able to see their surroundings and their weapons are always pointing outward.

Along with the seat adapters, the division added steel plating on the truck's sides, floorboard, tailgate and doors.

“We've tested the trucks by firing 7.62mm and 5.56mm rounds at them from different ranges, and they've passed the tests,” he said.

Finally, the Humvees have been

fitted with a new tire mount that also serves as a fuel can mount and allows more cargo space inside the vehicle.

“Our goal is to provide the maximum force protection for our Soldiers while keeping our readiness,” said Merkle. 🇺🇸



SPC Mark Daniels, from the 584th Maint. Co., puts the finishing touches on a gun mount created by 101st Abn. Div. Soldiers.

former presidential compound, made up of several palaces and mansions. Many of the elaborate buildings are now sleeping quarters. Several of the quarters touch the water's edge. But the true gem of the compound is the “Iron Horse Inn,” a palace turned into an MWR facility.

SGM Michael Anastasio said Soldiers rotating on a four-day cycle use the facility. Each cycle averages about 200 Soldiers, depending on missions, but the facility can hold up to 400 Soldiers at one time. They sleep in several mansions throughout the compound during R&R visits and are bused daily to the facility to use its recreational amenities.

Like other dwellings occupied by the Army throughout Iraq, the palace was in shambles when the division arrived, Anastasio said.

“It was completely looted,” he said. “The locals took everything including all the furniture and fixtures off the wall.”

The palatial Iron Horse Inn now boasts an indoor swimming pool, a mini PX, a local bazaar that sells

everything from clothing to exotic rugs, a barbershop, a sports bar with two big-screen TVs, a weight room, an Internet café with 12 computers, a phone center with 48 telephones, and a theater that shows movies three to five times a day. The theater becomes a chapel on Sundays. Outdoors, there's a volleyball court and horseshoe pit.

"Our Soldiers are on constant missions, performing raids or monitoring traffic-control points," Anastasio said. "The first day they get here they're exhausted. I'll go through the billets and maybe find two or three empty bunks. Basically, the spend their first day here recharging."

He said it's amazing to see the difference between the way Soldiers look when they arrive and how they look after they've been at the inn for a few days.

"This place is rewarding for them," he said. "We understand we're not in a safe environment, but it's an important

"This place is beautiful," said SGT William Holmes of the 326th Engineer Bn. while using one of four Internet computers set up at the Strike Inn. "

part of our mission to give Soldiers their much-deserved rest."

Not everyone with the 4th Inf. Div. lives in a palace or mansion. Northwest of Tikrit, on an open airfield that was once Iraq's air force academy, the division's 4th Bde. Soldiers live in tents, but in comfort.

"Most of our tents either have air conditioning or swamp cooling units," said CSM Willie Tart of 2nd Bn, 4th Aviation Regt. "We'll soon be getting

containerized housing and shower units similar to those at Camp Doha, Kuwait."

During the extremely hot summer days without the luxury of an electrical air conditioning unit, Soldier ingenuity helped cool down the living area.

"We took particle board and placed it on the ceiling of the tent," said SGT George Hernandez, from 2nd Bn., 4th Avn. Regt. "We also built wooden storage cabinets, added a couple of ceiling fans and overhead lights, put pallets on the ground as flooring, and bought several TVs and refrigerators from the PX."

Hernandez was also instrumental in building a shower unit from a two-man bunker and established power throughout his battalion's area.

"We do a lot of hard work. It's good to come back to a tent that has a bit of a personal touch," he said. "This helps us relax and get through the



Soldiers from 3rd Bn., 16th FA, work out inside Camp Thunder's gym.



Soldiers of the 4th Inf. Div. were among the first to get containerized living units, along with shower and restroom trailers.

night so we can wake up fresh and tackle another rough day.”

Elsewhere at the airfield, 4th Bde. Soldiers have made an outside theater and a boxing ring in one of the hangars. They’ve also improved work areas to improve mission performance.

Camp Norway, a 4th Inf. Div. camp where 2nd Bde.’s Co. C., 2nd Bn., 8th Inf. Regt. resides, is located 10 minutes from the Iranian border.

“It was pretty rough at first,” said 1SG Herbert Silva. “We had no shower facilities. We slept in vehicles or tents.”

He said the logistical support arrived eventually and now the Soldiers there have 37 trailers that each house a maximum of four Soldiers, plus two shower and latrine trailer units.

Throughout Tikrit, 4th Inf.Div. Soldiers have taken unlivable dwellings and turned them into livable areas. One of the toughest jobs, and most remarkable improvements, was made by Soldiers from 3rd Bn., 16th Field Artillery. They occupied a gutted and looted hospital that is now called Camp Thunder.

“It took us 40 cargo-Humvee loads to remove rubble from the site before

setting up a day room and gym,” said 1SG Jorge Colbert from HHC, 3rd Bn., 16th FA. “Our Soldiers deserve all the credit for these improvements.”

Baghdad

The escalated attacks in the Green Zone of Baghdad have forced tighter security measures. Still, most Soldiers, especially those residing at the Baghdad International Airport, can enjoy many amenities at their location upon completing their daily missions.

Long lines at Iraq’s only Burger King are routine at the airport. The large PX is typically filled with shoppers, and several gift shops run by Iraqis provide variety. The airport also has a circus-sized tent that houses a dining facility serving three daily meals.

One of the most popular stops is the 1st Armored Div. Sports Lounge, a building that includes a day room, library and state-of-the-art gym.

“Having a gym like this here in Iraq makes me feel like I’m back home,” said SSG Langdon Bryant, from the 127th Avn. Support Bn. “This lounge helps me temporarily get away from the seriousness of our mission and it keeps me in good shape.”

The facility is run jointly by the Army and local Iraqis.

Hussein Umran, one of the

contracted Iraqis working at the lounge, said he does what he can to gain the Soldiers’ trust. “When I see the Soldiers happy I get happy,” he said. “I know they’re nervous being in a foreign land where some people want to harm them. But, I show them that all Iraqis are not killers.”

Umran goes the extra mile to please the Soldiers.

“A few days ago a Soldier told me he was turning 19,” he said. “I came back the next day with a birthday cake and surprised him.”

Like the other two divisions, the 1st Armor Div. has set up its own R&R site, called “Freedom’s Rest,” a former recreation palace that belonged to one of Saddam Hussein’s sons.

The site has many amenities, including 40 computers in its Internet café, a 120-seat theater, a large outdoor pool, and two villas that house up to 90 Soldiers.

A Continual Improvement

Throughout Iraq, the Army has proven that Soldiers’ quality of life is a top priority. The containment phase of Operation Iraqi Freedom has proven to be as dangerous as the initial combat operations, but the Soldiers can now return to their base camps and enjoy just a little extra comfort as they await their return home. 🇺🇸



Soldiers from HHB, 4th Bn., 27th FA, enjoy a game of chess inside their tent’s makeshift dayroom in Baghdad.



The 1st Armor Div.'s Freedoms Rest serves as an R&R site for division Soldiers. The site has two pools, a theater, gym and many other recreational amenities.

Iraq Troop Update

Story by SPC Bill Putnam

SOME 112,000 service members — including more than 37,000 National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers — began deploying to Iraq and Kuwait early this year, in keeping with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's November troop-deployment announcement. Additionally, nearly 4,000 reserve-component Soldiers will be deployed to Afghanistan.

The rotations in and out of Iraq — to relieve the first Soldiers deployed to Iraq before the war — began in January and were to be completed by April, Rumsfeld said.

The latest deployments are intended to reduce the overall number of Soldiers in Iraq, he said, decreasing U.S. divisions from four to three and 17 combat brigades to 13. More units, such as infantry and military police, will be brought in.

Among the latest active-duty Army units to deploy to Iraq were the 1st Cavalry Division from Fort Hood, Texas; the Germany-based 1st Infantry Div.; and the 2nd Brigade of the Hawaii-based 25th Inf. Div.

SPC Bill Putnam works for the Army News Service at the Pentagon.

The 1st Cav. replaced the 1st Armored Div. in and around Baghdad. The 1st Inf. replaced the 101st Airborne Div. and 4th Inf. Div. And the Stryker Brigade Combat Team from Fort Lewis, Wash., joined the 1st Marine Expeditionary Unit to relieve Soldiers of the 82nd Abn. Div. in western Iraq.

Two multi-national divisions, led by the British and Polish armies were to remain in the southeast and southern portions of Iraq.

Also, two National Guard combat brigades, the 30th Inf. from North Carolina and the 39th Inf. from Arkansas, were to augment the 1st Inf. and 1st Cav.

A third National Guard brigade, the 81st Armor Bde. from Washington state, will relieve the National Guard's 53rd and 76th Inf. Bdes., which were on duty in and around Baghdad.

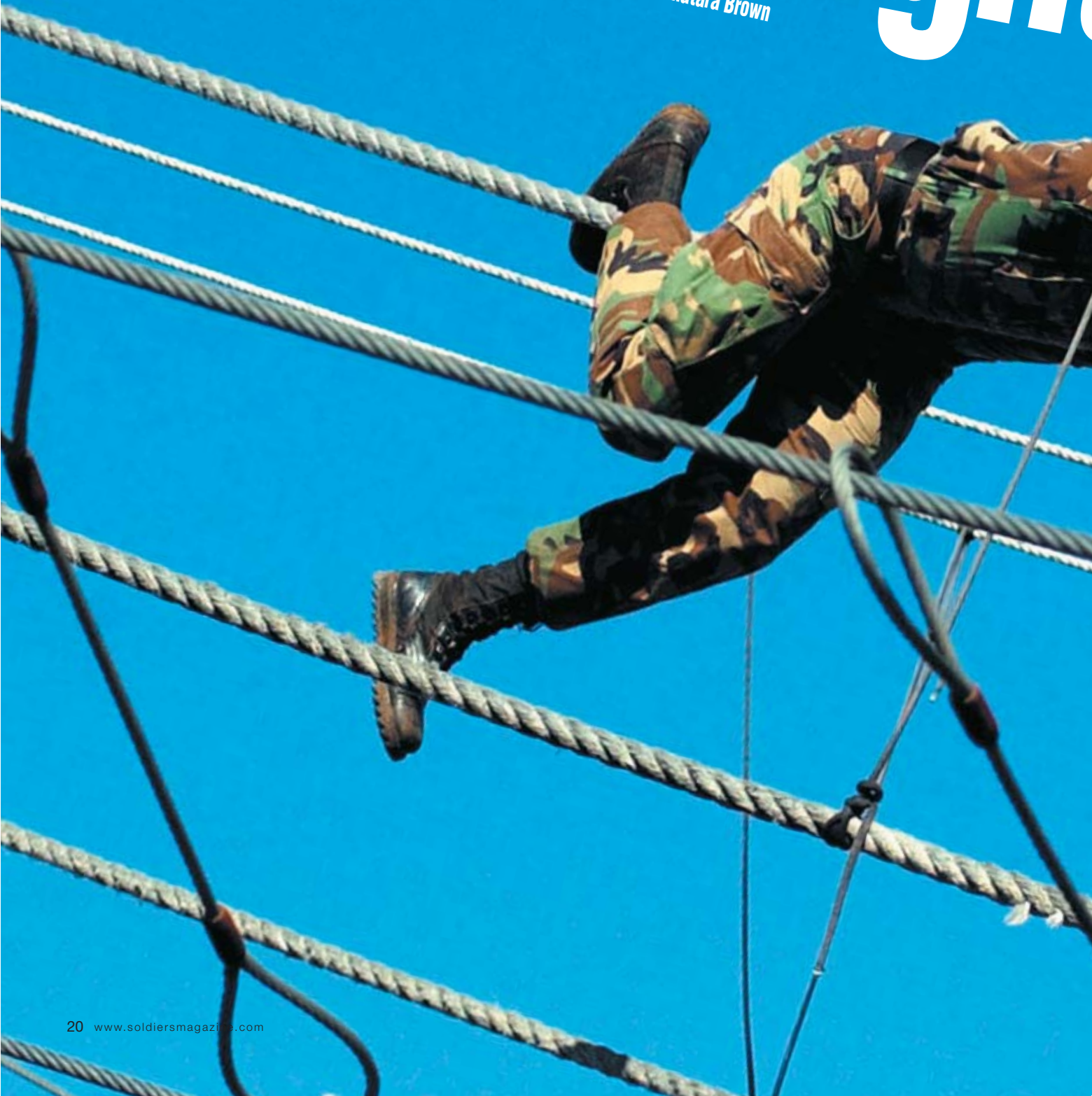
In Afghanistan elements of the 25th Inf. Div. were to replace the Fort Drum, N.Y.-based 10th Mountain Div.

Many of the Army units being deployed to Iraq are combat-support and combat-service support units, Rumsfeld said. Most units going into Iraq now will go in as motorized infantry, mainly driving Humvees.

Today, there are roughly 118,000 Iraqis participating in various internal-security units, Rumsfeld said. And, in November, President George W. Bush's goal was to speed up the turnover of authority in Iraq to the Iraqi people. 🇮🇶

Warfighter

Story and Photos by SPC Shatara Brown





ter Challenge

SGT Stephen Mudge of the 39th Military Police Detachment from Fort Shafter, Hawaii, maneuvers across a one-rope bridge on the first day of the Warfighter Competition.

VERY grimace, drop of sweat and gasp for breath accented the pain, anxiety and determination visible on the faces of the challengers as they responded to shouts of encouragement, or perhaps to their own inner voices: “Come on, just a little farther, you can make it!”

The competitors were teams of military police Soldiers from around the Army who had gathered at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., in September for the Seventh Annual Warfighter Team Competition, a part of the military police corps’ regimental week celebration.

“Before the competition, separate companies and battalions conducted local competitions to decide which teams would represent their units here,” said James Barrett, the MP regimental command sergeant major. “This puts the best MP teams against each other in a very grueling three-day competition that tests them physically and mentally, and in their technical and tactical skills.”

The competition began with a 3,200-meter orienteering lane, common-task testing and a written exam, Barrett said.

It was tough trying to plot an azimuth at 3 a.m., when it was pitch black, said SGT Jose

SPC Shatara Brown is a staff member of the Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., newspaper, the Guidon. ➤



▲
SGT Robert Williamson of the Korea-based 2nd MP Company crosses the three-rope bridge at the Physical Endurance Combat Skills Course.

Mendoza, who with SPC Duan Alveris and PVT Braulio Fulp constituted team 34, from the 89th MP Brigade at Fort Hood, Texas.

And the temperature didn't help. It was cold, wet and so treacherous that team members fell on many of the slopes, they said.

As the day progressed, teams had to negotiate Warrior Tower, the teamwork development course and the physical endurance combat skills course.

At Warrior Tower teams climbed an A-frame ladder to cross the three-rope, one-rope and two-

rope bridges, then rappelled down the tower wall. Penalties were assessed for falls and for rappelling early.

The teamwork course tested the Soldiers' intellect. Teams were given 20 minutes to move themselves and their supplies across a sand pit without falling into the pit or touching any of the penalty areas.

The physical-endurance course — with the horizontal bar, cargo net, high wall and rope-swing obstacles, and tasks such as the grenade throw — tested the teams' skills, strength and endurance.

“Sometimes you have to dig deep to succeed... It’s all mind over matter, precision over pain.”

Day two of the competition included a physical-assessment test, automatic grenade-launcher qualification, round-robin hands-on testing, and bayonet training.

During the physical-assessment test, Soldiers performed elevated push-ups, weighted-elevated sit-ups and a 2.6-mile run with the M-16 rifle.

The round-robin testing included weapon disassembly and assembly, a Humvee push and casualty evacuation.

Many said the Humvee push was the toughest event of the day, because teams had to apply strength, speed and technique to push vehicles 50 meters over uneven terrain.

SGM Robert Bankhead, adviser for the team from 519th MP Battalion at Fort Polk, La., told his Soldiers to watch the other teams, see what worked, then determine how to do it better.

“Make sure you push it like a wheelbarrow, dig deep, and no matter what, never stop pushing,” Bankhead said.

The Soldiers were standing in formation at 3 a.m. on day three, getting ready for their last challenge — the 15-mile march.

Hours later, as Soldiers crossed the finish line, their BDUs soaked with sweat and faces flushed with pain or determination, some fell to the ground as cramps gripped their legs.

And beyond the finish line, the teams’ NCOs and officers were waiting to carry those competitors who could run, walk or crawl no more.

After enduring the many days of pain, stress, excitement and even laughter, team 24 — SGT Stephen Mudge, SPC Lawrence Backstrom and SPC Marco Gonzalez from the 39th MP Detachment at Fort Shafter, Hawaii — emerged as this year’s top Warfighter team.

While his team didn’t make it to the winner’s circle, SPC Dwight Chambers of the 984th MP Company at Fort Carson, Colo., took pride in having completed the difficult competition.

“Sometimes you have to dig deep to succeed,” Chambers said. “It’s all mind over matter, precision over pain.” 🇺🇸



▶ SPC Ryan Thurber of the 519th MP Battalion at Fort Polk, La., rests while receiving an IV after completing the 15-mile roadmarch.



▶ SPC Kyle Albert of the Korea-based 728th MP Bn. screams in pain from cramps in his legs after pushing a Humvee with other members of his team.

▶ SPC Duan Alveris of the Fort Hood, Texas-based 89th MP Brigade puts all his effort into helping his team push the Humvee across the finish line.

2004

Monthly Base Pay

EFFECTIVE 10/1/03

PAY GRADE	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS							
O-10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
O-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
O-8	7751.10	8004.90	8173.20	8220.60	8430.30	8781.90	8863.50
O-7	6440.70	6739.80	6878.40	6988.50	7187.40	7384.20	7611.90
O-6	4773.60	5244.30	5588.40	5588.40	5609.70	5850.00	5882.10
O-5	3979.50	4482.90	4793.40	4851.60	5044.80	5161.20	5415.90
O-4	3433.50	3974.70	4239.90	4299.00	4545.30	4809.30	5137.80
O-3	3018.90	3422.40	3693.90	4027.20	4220.10	4431.60	4568.70
O-2	2608.20	2970.60	3421.50	3537.00	3609.90	3609.90	3609.90
O-1	2264.40	2356.50	2848.50	2848.50	2848.50	2848.50	2848.50

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AS AN ENLISTED MEMBER

O-3E	0.00	0.00	0.00	4027.20	4220.10	4431.60	4568.70
O-2E	0.00	0.00	0.00	3537.00	3609.90	3724.80	3918.60
O-1E	0.00	0.00	0.00	2848.50	3042.30	3154.50	3269.40

WARRANT OFFICERS

W-5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
W-4	3119.40	3355.80	3452.40	3547.20	3710.40	3871.50	4035.00
W-3	2848.80	2967.90	3089.40	3129.30	3257.10	3403.20	3595.80
W-2	2505.90	2649.00	2774.10	2865.30	2943.30	3157.80	3321.60
W-1	2212.80	2394.00	2515.20	2593.50	2802.30	2928.30	3039.90

ENLISTED MEMBERS

E-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3769.20
E-8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3085.50	3222.00
E-7	2145.00	2341.20	2430.60	2549.70	2642.10	2801.40	2891.10
E-6	1855.50	2041.20	2131.20	2218.80	2310.00	2516.10	2596.20
E-5	1700.10	1813.50	1901.10	1991.10	2130.60	2250.90	2339.70
E-4	1558.20	1638.30	1726.80	1814.10	1891.50	1891.50	1891.50
E-3	1407.00	1495.50	1585.50	1585.50	1585.50	1585.50	1585.50
E-2	1337.70	1337.70	1337.70	1337.70	1337.70	1337.70	1337.70
E-1 >	1193.40	1193.40	1193.40	1193.40	1193.40	1193.40	1193.40
E-1 <	1193.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Source: Defense Finance and Accounting Service

Basic Pay Table

Effective JAN. 1, 2004

Years of Service

12 14 16 18 20 22 24 26

Commissioned Officers

0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12524.70	12586.20	12847.80	13303.80
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10954.50	11112.30	11340.30	11738.40
9197.10	9292.80	9579.90	9995.70	10379.10	10635.30	10635.30	10635.30
7839.00	8066.70	8781.90	9386.10	9386.10	9386.10	9386.10	9433.50
5882.10	6216.30	6807.30	7154.10	7500.90	7698.30	7897.80	8285.40
5602.80	5844.00	6213.60	6389.70	6563.40	6760.80	6760.80	6760.80
5394.00	5571.60	5673.60	5733.00	5733.00	5733.00	5733.00	5733.00
4794.30	4911.30	4911.30	4911.30	4911.30	4911.30	4911.30	4911.30
3609.90	3609.90	3609.90	3609.50	3609.50	3609.50	3609.50	3609.50
2848.50	2848.50	2848.50	2848.50	2848.50	2848.50	2848.50	2848.50

With Over 4 Years Active-Duty Service Member or Warrant Officer

4794.30	4984.20	5092.80	5241.30	5241.30	5241.30	5241.30	5241.30
4068.60	4180.20	4180.20	4180.20	4180.20	4180.20	4180.20	4180.20
3382.20	3537.00	3537.00	3537.00	3537.00	3537.00	3537.00	3537.00

Warrant Officers

0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5360.70	5544.30	5728.80	5914.20
4194.30	4359.00	4617.30	4782.60	4944.30	5112.00	5277.00	5445.90
3786.30	3988.80	4140.60	4291.80	4356.90	4424.10	4570.20	4716.30
3443.40	3562.20	3643.80	3712.50	3843.00	3972.60	4103.70	4103.70
3164.70	3247.20	3321.90	3443.70	3535.80	3535.80	3535.80	3535.80

Enlisted Members

3854.70	3962.40	4089.30	4216.50	4421.10	4594.20	4776.60	5054.70
3306.30	3407.70	3517.50	3715.50	3815.70	3986.40	4081.20	4314.30
2980.20	3139.80	3219.60	3295.50	3341.70	3498.00	3599.10	3855.00
2685.30	2763.30	2790.90	2809.80	2809.80	2809.80	2809.80	2809.80
2367.90	2367.90	2367.90	2367.90	2367.90	2367.90	2367.90	2367.90
1891.50	1891.50	1891.50	1891.50	1891.50	1891.50	1891.50	1891.50
1585.50	1585.50	1585.50	1585.50	1585.50	1585.50	1585.50	1585.50
1337.70	1337.70	1337.70	1337.70	1337.70	1337.70	1337.70	1337.70
1193.40	1193.40	1193.40	1193.40	1193.40	1193.40	1193.40	1193.40
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Soldiers

The Official U.S. Army Magazine

A School for Pea

Story and Photos by Heike Hasenauer



ce and Prosperity



The Marshall Center is situated at the foot of the Bavarian Alps in southern Germany. A statue of George C. Marshall, for whom the center is named, greets visitors.



It may be the only learning institution where U.S. and foreign military and civilian personnel observe the traditional American Thanksgiving and Albanian Independence Day together, acknowledge Bosnia-Herzegovina Statehood Day and take field trips to the United Nations building in New York and NATO Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.

Optional tours allow them to visit such legendary places as “Mad” King Ludwig’s lavish castles in southern Germany. And, when students graduate, some go on to internships in places like Moscow and Moldova.

Mike McCarthy, deputy director of the George C. Marshall Center for European Studies, says that for individuals like the former secretary of defense of Estonia the Marshall Center experience can be critical, because the lessons students learn there will have a positive impact on their home nations’ security and economic development.

A Proud History

The Marshall Center is located in Garmisch-Partenkirchen in the Bavarian Alps, at the foot of Germany’s highest mountain, the Zugspitze. The center’s dormitories and classrooms are located in a sprawling complex of buildings that once housed German soldiers, said German air force Master Sgt. Michael Meyer, a school



The town of Grainau and its distinctive Bavarian-style church with carved wooden “headstones” is located only a few miles from the Marshall Center.

spokesman.

The buildings were constructed in 1937 to house German mountain troops. After World War II, Americans used the complex as a prison. In 1964 it became the U.S. Army Russian Institute, which in 1993 became the Marshall Center in response to the dramatic changes that had swept Europe. The latter had also replaced an outdated institution known as Detachment R, which was founded in 1947 in response to the Cold War and U.S. and Allied concerns about a potential Soviet invasion of Western Europe.

The name change was more than fitting, school officials said, given the fact that George C. Marshall, Army chief of staff during World War II and postwar U.S. secretary of state, originated the Marshall Plan for a free, democratic Europe.

Course Offerings

The Marshall Center continues to preserve Marshall’s plan to preserve peace and cooperation across Europe, school officials said.

The center encompasses the College of International and Security Studies, which includes the Foreign Language Training Center, Europe, and the Eurasian Foreign Area Officer Program.

CISS is the heart of the Marshall Center, said school spokeswoman Laura DeFrancisco. It offers three international programs for military and civilian officials, and focuses on how to develop and maintain national

security in a democratic society.

Twice annually the center conducts the two-week Senior Executive Seminar for general officers. The 15-week Executive Program targets colonels, and the 10-week Leaders for the 21st Century course is directed primarily toward captains and majors.

CISS also offers two programs intended primarily for American personnel: the 18-month Eurasian Foreign Area Officer Program and the Foreign Language Training Center, Europe. The FLTCE offers distance-learning and on-site training in 10 core languages for military and civilian linguists and others.

Russian-language instructor SFC Ronald Lauscher said the Marshall Center’s language program includes the five-week Linguist Enhancer Course, a language-refresher course, plus language training in English and



Marshall Center classes, such as “Leaders of the 21st Century,” are conducted in large, modern classrooms.



German.

Additionally, a 12-week language-conversion course converts Russian linguists to Serbo-Croatian linguists, Lauscher said.

In support of its mission of fostering international peace and understanding, the Marshall Center offers classes to senior military and civilian officials, focusing on defense strategy, linguistics and diplomacy.

Special emphasis is placed on teaching military officers and civilian officials from the former Warsaw-Pact nations and former Soviet republics the role military forces play in a democracy, said McCarthy. Instructors discuss national-security issues, how to develop U.S. policy, and what affects the economy and the will of the people, he said.

"Many students who come to the Marshall Center — especially from

such former communist countries as Albania and Romania — have never been out of their countries before," McCarthy said.

And it's important that they know no one is dictating to them how their country should be run, McCarthy said. In every course, professors stress the importance of *how* to think, not *what* to think. The bottom line is developing partnerships for the future.

What better way to understand a

The Marshall Center's classes focus on defense strategy, linguistics and diplomacy.

former foe than to live with him in close quarters? Recently, a U.S. Air Force captain, a targeter during the Kosovo Campaign, shared dormitory space with a Serbian air-defense commander. Today, the two regularly exchange e-mails, said alumni-relations specialist Chris O'Connor.

"Bosnians, Croats and Serbs are very sincere about fostering relations with each other," he said.

Some former Soviet republics send students to the Marshall Center, even though their nations' officials may have no intention of allowing their countries to become democracies, McCarthy said.

These students are nonetheless enlightened when they return home, he said. "They've interacted for 15 weeks in an environment of nonattribution. And they go back with



a greater appreciation for Western democratic values.”

The idea is to get away from presuming to teach students that their countries’ military forces should operate as the American military does, said SSG Neil Holmes, former operations NCO for the Graduate Support Office. “Rather, we want to give them options, such as: ‘If you want to move away from the former communist system to a system under civilian control, this is what you have to do.’”

Student Population

The Marshall Center averages 600 students per year, roughly 50 percent military and 50 percent civilian. They come from as many as 47 countries, with Mongolia being the latest addition, McCarthy said.

While there’s “a good NATO mix,” he said, “our focus is on training military and civilian leaders from the newly independent European states.”

The majority of students, who are selected by their countries’ governments to attend, are military officers or

diplomats in ministries of foreign affairs, said O’Connor. Others include parliamentarians and personnel involved in border-guard services and police units.

Benefits to Students

“I’m very aggressive about students making the most of their experience here,” said McCarthy, “because this is not a vacation; taxpayer money is going into this.”

To ensure students learn what’s being taught, classes are recorded in English, German and Russian. If a student realizes he has absorbed only a fraction of the lesson, he can check out a video of the lecture in his own language for review, Meyer said.

School administrators measure the success of Marshall Center programs by following the progress of graduates, said McCarthy. Since 1995 at least a dozen nations — among them Bulgaria, Croatia, Moldova, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Ukraine — have incorporated concepts taught at the Marshall Center in their national-security policies.

Additionally, Marshall Center graduates from Estonia, Bulgaria, Kazakhstan, Moldova and Romania have been selected by their countries’ governments to revamp their armed forces’ weapon systems, personnel and recruitment and retention strategies, he said.

When students from 47 countries come together in classrooms, they gain a greater appreciation for the challenges each of them face in their own countries, McCarthy said.

Foreign Area Officer Program

An FAO candidate typically begins training during the eighth year of service as an officer, said Eurasian program director LTC Chris Tone.

Students may participate in excursions to area historical and cultural sites, such as famed Neuschwanstein castle.





U.S. Army SPC Thomas Childs, an audio-visual specialist at the center, makes recordings of classroom sessions so students who may have had difficulty understanding some of the classroom instruction can review the material.

To be accepted into the program, candidates must have commanded a company, but not a battalion, and served in staff-level assignments. Captains must “look like they’ll make it to major,” and all candidates must demonstrate a certain language capability, Tone said.

Many FAOs become involved in military-to-military cooperation efforts. Others teach courses dealing with regional and strategic issues at the Army’s training institutes, including the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., he said.

“About 25 percent of our graduates are assigned to political or military adviser staffs; 25 to 30 percent to the Threat Reduction Agency; and the remainder to embassies, as defense attaches.

And a few hold positions in a security-assistance capacity, Tone said,

working with foreign military officials in countries where U.S. forces help train local armies.

Eurasian FAO Program

“Due to the global war on terrorism, today’s demand for FAOs in Eurasia — Europe, the Middle East and south Asia — is huge,” said Tone. And the training process is long. “In the last decade, the number of EFAOs has grown, due to demand. But the ‘pipeline’ is producing fewer of them.”


The question today is whether efforts should be directed toward training FAOs for Afghanistan and Iraq, or be focused on training FAOs for places like the Sudan, Tone said.

The EFAO program prepares military officers and Defense Department civilians for positions at the State Department level in former Soviet Bloc nations. Students undergo advanced training in Russian

and Ukrainian, among other languages, Tone said. During six of the course’s 18 months, students work as interns in such countries as Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo.

They might work as liaison officers with the Russian military in the Balkans, for example, or help out with POW/MIA research while attached to a search unit in Moscow, Tone said.

Alumni

Marshall Center Alumni keep in touch after returning to their home countries. An Internet-based site allows them to share comments about such topics as the possibility of lasting peace in the Balkans, what potential members of NATO and the European Union might contribute to European security institutions, and whether democracy is primarily a Western ideal. 



A School for Peace and Prosperity

A MEETING of the MINDS

Story and Photos by Heike Hasenauer

THE George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies' Conference Center — directed by a German army colonel — has hosted some 160 conferences in 48 countries since it was established in 1993. And it has accommodated roughly 8,500 participants, said retired Army LTC Jay Behnke, the Conference Center's deputy director.

Behnke previously was a consultant to the secretary of the Army, wrote

policy on combating terrorism and assisted major U.S. Army commands in protecting themselves against weapons of mass destruction.

"Our focus is at the strategic level more than military to military," Behnke said, "the latter being more related to Partnership-for-Peace-type exchanges. We focus on much more than that." The Conference Center has a military and civilian focus on lawmakers, think-tanks, civilian universities specializing in national

defense and on nongovernmental organizations.

Each conference requires between three and five months of planning, Behnke said, based on its size and the complexity of the topic.

Conference Center officials create a theme based on a chosen topic and locate experts from around the world to present lectures and lead discussions.

"Eighty percent of the feedback we receive from attendees is that, 'Yes, we're getting out of the conferences what we need,'" Behnke said.

"Six months to a year after the conference, we contact participants to find out how they have used what they've learned," Behnke added. "The outcome of some conferences — as in drug-reduction conferences — is that partner nations have agreed to form a regional crisis plan, to control borders, for example.

"Lessons learned are nothing more than books on a shelf collecting dust if you don't do anything with them," he said. It can be said of conference participants, too.

All indications are that these strategic-level meetings of people from around the world — many former foes — are helping to foster understanding, cooperation and friendship, Behnke said.

In fiscal year 2002 the conference

"Our focus is at the strategic level more than military to military, Partnership-for-Peace-type exchanges.

Students from former Warsaw-Pact nations are among attendees at a recent Conference Center meeting.





Men and women, both military and civilian, who attend Marshall Center courses and Conference Center sessions will likely one day be assigned to top-level positions in their countries.

center — one of five Defense Department conference centers dedicated to addressing national-level strategic issues — operated on a \$3.7 million budget, Behnke said.

U.S. and German officials at the Germany-based center view combating terrorism as a priority. In 2003, 12 of its 24 conferences focused on the subject.

“One of our core competencies has always been crime and corruption,” said Behnke. “We’ve found it’s joined at the hip with terrorism.”

As a subordinate of U.S. European Command, “we get priorities from them,” Behnke said. “We talk to U.S. and German defense attaches and to other officials and ask them what the most pressing issues are in a given country.”

The conference center in Garmisch — which focuses on helping the

“emerging countries in eastern Europe,” according to Behnke — each year receives 80 to 100 requests to conduct conferences. “Because we consider ourselves to be the experts [on the topic of combating terrorism], we don’t always wait for officials to come to us with a request; we initiate about 30 percent of the annual three- to five-day conferences we host.

“All conferences are product-oriented,” said Behnke. “They have to result in a product. If we’re partnering with Georgia, for example, to help it formulate a national security strategy, we have to have an outline. If we give a course on force character and ethics to combat terrorism, we have to have a plan to modify ethics in that country.

“Recently, the Croatians asked for a conference to help them develop their national security strategy. We put it together,” Behnke said. “Later, they

came to us again to set up a conference to test their strategy against various crisis scenarios.”

The Conference Center also holds an annual security conference during which representatives from Central Asian nations can talk about regional security, combating terrorism and drug trafficking, and environmental issues, Behnke said.

“And in January 2002, in a conference in Berlin, we taught newly elected Romanian and Bulgarian parliamentarians how to work with their ministries of defense and how to oversee their military intelligence services and defense spending,” Behnke continued.

“We taught the parliamentarians things they should consider; we didn’t tell them what they should ask,” he said. “The feedback we got from that conference was off the meter.”

Charlie Alston



SCHOOL RENAMES ▲ TRAINING FACILITY

Fort Eustis, Va.

THE U.S. Army Aviation Logistics School renamed a Black Hawk maintenance training facility in honor of two Soldiers killed in Somalia.

SSG William D. Cleveland Jr. and SGT Thomas J. Field were killed while serving as maintenance crew chiefs on board "Super 64," a Black Hawk helicopter that was shot down in Mogadishu on Oct. 3, 1993.

The newly named Cleveland/Field Training Facility is run by Army NCOs who teach both Army and Air Force students the UH-60 Black Hawk Helicopter Repairer Course. Both Cleveland and Field received Black Hawk maintenance training at the school.

Cleveland and Field were members of Fort Campbell's 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment. CW2 Michael Durant, pilot of "Super 64" survived the crash and was taken prisoner. Co-pilot Ray Frank also died in the crash. The story of their mission is recounted in Mark Bowden's book "Black Hawk Down" and the movie of the same name.

"In Somalia, 'Super 64' never missed a single mission or training event," said Durant, the guest speaker for the ceremony. "I'm talking about 100 percent reliability in severe combat conditions. There were dusty urban landing zones, intense heat and relentless salt from the sea and we still flew multiple missions every day of the week."

MG John Curran, the commander of Fort Rucker, was also at the ceremony.

He said he hoped that everyone who entered the facility would be inspired by the courageous example of Cleveland and Field.

"It is my sincere hope that the students and faculty of the U.S. Army Aviation Logistics School who read this plaque will remember that some day, odds are, they will be called upon to fight at home or in a faraway land," said Curran. "And that they will be expected to uphold the ideals, the dedication and the warrior ethos so apparent in SSG William D. Cleveland Jr. and SGT Thomas J. Field."

The Army owns and maintains more than 1,500 Black Hawks. They are employed all over the world performing a variety of missions, including troop and cargo transports, air assault and medevac missions.

— Patti Bielling,
U.S. Army Transportation Center Public Affairs Office

CAMP ARIFJAN ►

Kuwait

SERVICE members are benefiting from several ongoing beautification projects on Camp Arifjan.

"We are paving roads and adding gravel to the roadsides in preparation for the upcoming rainy season," said SFC Larry Pacola from the New York Reserve's 770th Engineer Company.

Recent rain seeped underneath the road and roadside dust created erosion leading to cracks and cave-ins.

"We added tons of gravel to hold the underlying sand in place," said SGT Latanya Thomas, from the New Orleans Reserve's 377th Theater Support Command.

— SPC Petersi Lui, CFLCC PAO

SPC Petersi Lui



VIRGINIA ► ORANGE AIRPORT

Orange, Virginia

MAJ Keith Davis from the office of the deputy chief of staff, Personnel Command, performs a tandem jump with the Army's Golden Knights at Virginia's Orange Airport.

— SPC Bill Putman



ZOO EQUIPMENT UPDATED ►

Baghdad, Iraq

BBROWN Bears at the Baghdad Zoo are a few of the many animals that will benefit from recent equipment purchases made by Army civil affairs and medical command Soldiers in Iraq.

"We purchased new surgical and diagnostic equipment for use on the zoo's animals," said LTC Jose Lozada a veterinarian from Texas' Reserve's 490th Civil Affairs Battalion.

The Army veterinarians purchased \$42,000 in equipment for the zoo. That included an autoclave for instrument sterilization, an X-ray machine for animal bone-structure assessment, and a vaporizer to accurately measure anesthesia drugs, Lozada said.

"The idea is to bring the veterinary capabilities of the Baghdad Zoo up to 21st Century standards," he said. "The value of these machines is immeasurable when it comes to the functionality and effectiveness of the zoo."

Dr. Adel Salman, chief veterinarian and director of the zoo, has seen the daily improvements.

"Before the U.S. Army's help, the zoo lacked equipment. There was no surgical capability and little treatment capability because we had no anesthesia or instruments," he said.

The number one priority for the Army is to train the Iraqi vets on the new equipment and teach them how to perform surgical procedures, Lozada said.

— SPC Chad D. Wilkerson, 372nd MPAD



SPC Chad D. Wilkerson

Sharp Shooters

The U.S. Army Southern European Task Force, headquartered in Vicenza, Italy, spent last summer helping bring stability and peace to Liberia, a country ravaged by 14 years of civil war. Their mission was to help the Economic Community of West African States prevent a humanitarian disaster and create a secure environment for humanitarian organizations in Liberia. By October, the mission was achieved and the operations were turned over to a U.N. peacekeeping force. SETAF's public affairs office shares some photos of the mission. 🇺🇸

LTC Tom Collins



LTC Tom Collins



▲ Liberian men and boys work together in a safer environment of peace.

▲ Liberians make their way to church, a sign that peace has returned to the country.

LTC Tom Collins



Liberia's flag has 11 equal horizontal stripes of red (top and bottom) alternating with white; there is a white five-pointed star on a blue square in the upper hoist-side corner; the design was based on the US flag.

Source: The CIA
World Factbook

◀ MG Thomas Turner, commander of SETAF and commander for JTF Liberia, meets with Nigerian Brig. Gen. Festus Okonkwo of the West African forces in Liberia.

LTC Tom Collins



▲ Turner greets Liberian children in a temporary camp for internally displaced persons near Monrovia.



Capt. Rich Komurek, USAF



LTC Tom Collins

- ▲ A local fishing boat is dwarfed by the Navy's USS *Iwo Jima* off the coast of Liberia.
- ◀ A woman carries her baby in a traditional method at one of the camps for displaced Liberians.

Capt. Rich Komurek, USAF



SGM Larry Lane

- ▲ MAJ Lynda Snyder meets Liberian children and checks the quality of services provided at one of the displaced-persons camps.
- ▲ LTC Tony Carr, force protection officer for JTF Liberia, greets displaced children at one of the camps in Monrovia.

Mail photo submissions for Sharp Shooters to: **Photo Editor, Soldiers, 9325 Gunston Road, Ste. S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581**. Digital images should be directed to: **alberto.betancourt@belvoir.army.mil**. All submissions must include an introductory paragraph and captions.

Beyond its role in defense of the nation, the Army and its Soldiers have contributed to medicine, technology, exploration, engineering and science. The milestones listed in this monthly chronology offer only a small glimpse of that proud story of selfless service. It is also your story.



For more about Army history, go to www.ArmHistoryFnd.org and www.Arm.mil/cmh.

1700s

1777 — Rhode Island authorizes enlistment of free blacks and slaves to form the 1st Rhode Island Regiment, the first primarily black American regiment.

1779 — COL George Rogers Clark's small force of 170 men recaptures Fort Sackville at Vincennes, Ill., on Feb. 26. Clark led the 180-mile march over icy, flooded prairies to surprise the British.



1862

MG Ulysses S. Grant conducts a joint Army-Navy campaign, Feb. 6-16, to capture Forts Henry and Donelson, opening the Tennessee River as a route deep into the Confederacy.

1800s

1808 — LT Zebulon Pike's party reaches and explores the Rio Grande River, Feb. 7.

1847 — In a two-day battle on Feb. 22 and 23, BG Zachary Taylor defeats a much larger Mexican force at Buena Vista, Mexico. The continued American victories by Taylor and MG Winfield Scott leads to the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo on Feb. 2, 1848, ending the Mexican-American War.

1864 — In the largest escape of the Civil War, 109 union Soldiers tunnel out of the Confederate's Libby Prison, Feb. 9, in Richmond, Va. Half of the escapees reach Union lines.

1870 — The Army Signal Corps establishes the first weather service.

1881 — "The father of American bacteriology," MAJ George N. Sternberg, discovers the germ that causes pneumonia. His continuing research also leads to advances in the battles against cholera, yellow fever and other diseases.

1885 — In Washington, D.C., Feb. 21, the Washington Monument is dedicated, following its completion by the Army Corps of Engineers.



1870



1885

1900s

1901 — Congress establishes the Army Nurse Corps, Feb. 2. The original group comprises 202 female members.

1903 — The Army General Staff and the position of Army chief of staff are created, Feb. 14, as a result of reforms by Secretary of War Elihu Root.

1918 — Feb. 5, over Saarbrücken, Germany, Army Signal Corps LT Stephan Thompson becomes the first American pilot to shoot down an enemy plane.

1932 — Army Chief of Staff GEN Douglas MacArthur approves establishment of the Purple Heart medal for combat wounds, Feb. 22.

1943 — U.S. II Corps is hit by a massive German counterattack at Kasserine Pass, Tunisia, Feb. 19. After suffering heavy losses, the Allies recover the pass five days later. In Burma, Army engineers begin construction of the Ledo Road over the mountains to link Burma and China.

1944 — The 1st Cavalry Division makes an amphibious landing in the Admiralty Islands, Feb. 29, and begins clearing out the Japanese defenders.

1945 — Sixth Army units recapture Bataan, Philippines, Feb. 21. In Europe, units of XIII and XIX Corps cross the Roer River, Feb. 23, moving deeper into Germany.



1912

The Army establishes the new rating of "military aviator."

1949 — The Army launches a Bumper-WAC rocket, Feb. 24. It's the first man-made object to enter space.

1951 — Although surrounded, the 23rd Inf. Task Force holds firm, Feb. 13 through 15, stopping the Chinese army at Chipyong-Ni, Korea.

1955 — The U.S. agrees to send Soldiers to train the South Vietnamese army.

1956 — The Army successfully fires the first Redstone missile, from White Sands Proving Ground, N.M., Feb. 21.

1960 — The Army successfully launches the first solid fuel Pershing ballistic missile from a mobile tactical launcher, Feb. 25. The missile can carry a nuclear warhead.

1963 — The 11th Air Assault Div. is activated, Feb. 14, to test and demonstrate the Army's use of aviation and air-assault concepts.

1967 — North Koreans ambush a 2nd Inf. Div. unit patrolling the Demilitarized Zone, killing one Soldier, Feb. 12. In South Vietnam, a battalion of the 173rd Airborne Bde. makes the only U.S. parachute assault of the Vietnam war, Feb. 22.

1984 — LTC Robert L. Stewart becomes the first Army astronaut in space, Feb. 3, as a crewmember of the space shuttle *Challenger* flight STS-41B.

1999—Army helicopters and medical personnel are sent to assist in the rescue of avalanche victims in Austria, Feb. 25.



1999 Offensive ground action of Operation Desert Storm begins, Feb. 23. The successful campaign to drive Iraqi forces from Kuwait lasts 100 hours.



SOLDIERS MAY GET SAD

Health

FEELING sad? If so, you may be one of millions of people who suffer from the February blahs or winter blues, medically known as Seasonal Affective Disorder.

The lack of sunlight during winter months can cause energy loss, excessive sleepiness, depression, melancholy, increased appetite and indecisiveness. The most common treatment is phototherapy or bright-light therapy, which may suppress the brain's secretion of melatonin according to Mental Health Association reports.

The cold, wet weather may inspire us to hibernate, but exercise is one of the best cures for SAD. If you suffer from the winter blahs:

- ◈ Control your sugar and alcohol intake. Get creative in the kitchen by trying low-fat recipes.
- ◈ Go outdoors for your daily dose of sunlight.
- ◈ Laugh. Read the funnies or rent a comedy.
- ◈ Use the cold weather as an excuse to start a new hobby, like home decorating or woodworking.
- ◈ Take a vacation.*
- ◈ See a doctor. People with severe depression may benefit from antidepressants.

SHOW A SERVICE MEMBER YOU CARE ▼

THE gift-giving season may be over, but America's defenders still need support. Operation USO Care Package gives people the chance to make tax-deductible donations toward care packages that USO sends to military members participating in Operation Enduring Freedom.

The packages contain items specifically requested by service personnel, such as prepaid international calling cards, disposable cameras and compact discs. Contributors may also write personal messages to be included in packages.



Learn more at www.usometrodc.org/care.html or call (866) USO-GIVE.



*Check out www.armymwr.com/portal/travel/recreationcenters for information about such Armed Forces Recreation Centers as the Hale Koa Hotel in Honolulu, Hawaii.

GETTING MARRIED MILITARY STYLE ▶

IF your sweetie pops the question this Valentine's Day, consider getting married military style. The main differences between military and civilian weddings are the use of military uniforms instead of traditional wedding clothes and the saber arch, through which couples depart the chapel.

Couples who want to get married in military chapels should make reservations early, as chapels are booked quickly during spring and summer. Premarital counseling may also be required, so couples should seek advice from their chaplains.

Many officers' and enlisted clubs have the facilities and experienced personnel to make wedding receptions a dream come true. Accommodations usually range from formal sit-down dinners for as many as 300 guests to intimate cocktail parties for 25.



For details and help on planning a military wedding, go to <http://usmarriagelaws.com> and www.weddingdetails.com/lore/military.cfm. Also inquire at installation clubs and chapels.



VALENTINE'S DAY ▼

VALENTINE'S Day, Saturday February 14, 2004, is all about love — and chocolate.

If you're still working off those final holiday pounds consider a visit the web site below for calorie counts.



Visit www.hersheys.com/nutrition_consumer/chocolates.html for calorie counts on Hershey products.

THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

THE Family and Medical Leave Act was approved by President Bill Clinton 11 years ago. The act entitles most federal employees to up to 12 workweeks of unpaid leave per year for the birth or adoption of a child, or to care for a family member with a serious health condition.

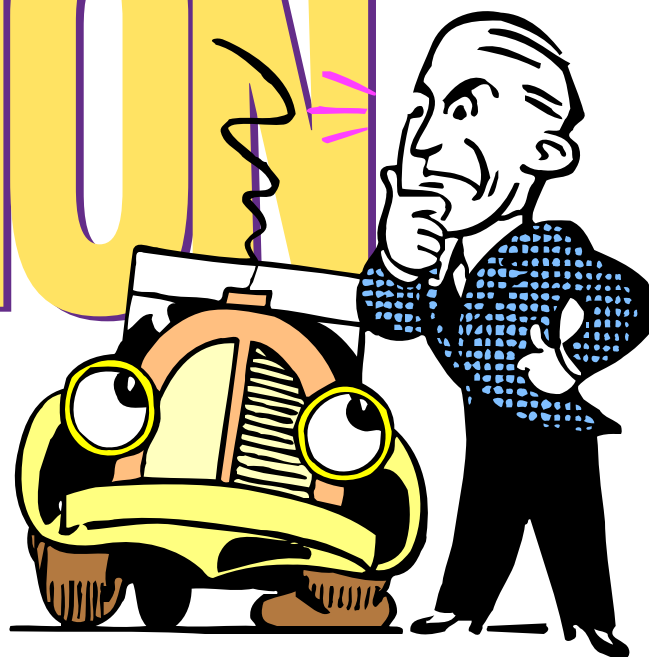
Employees must provide notice of their intent to take FMLA 30 days before the intended starting date, or as soon as possible in an emergency. Under certain conditions, employees may take the 12 weeks of FMLA intermittently.



For details go to www.opm.gov/oca/leave.

When Your Car is a

LEMON



THE cost of an automobile is a major expenditure, and when buyers are not satisfied with their purchases their frustration or anger becomes a major irritant for themselves and family members. A lack of knowledge about consumers' rights often compounds their aggravation.

Automobile buyers have long been at the mercy of retail dealers because it was difficult for dissatisfied consumers to gain access to out-of-state automakers.

This often left customers at the retailer's garage, waiting for repeat and unending repairs.

Some consumers have abandoned their defective vehicles on the dealer's lot and stopped making their monthly payments in the mistaken belief that doing so would end their debt obligation and cancel the sale. Others have set their cars on fire as a show of defiance and to embarrass the dealer.

Neither approach is legal, nor do they terminate the buyer's obligation to continue paying the finance debt, regardless of the condition of the vehicle.

Over time, however, the expansion of communications has permitted consumers to unite and seek restitution from the manufacturers. As evidence of repeated repairs for the same manufacturer defects grew without speedy correction, this justified legislative relief that now permits timely and effective action directly against the automaker.

Following the lead of states like Connecticut, which enacted the first so-called "Lemon Law" in 1982, Virginia enacted its own law to provide consumer relief

from possible abuses by the auto industry. Soldiers should consult their local legal-assistance attorneys to determine the specifics of their own state laws, but the Virginia law serves as an insight to the Lemon Law remedy.

What is Covered?

Any new or used vehicle with a manufacturer's warranty that is still in effect is covered by the Virginia law and the laws of most other states that have enacted such legislation. Vehicles covered include passenger cars, pickup and panel trucks, motorcycles, motor homes and mopeds — and leased vehicles, demonstrators and lease-purchase vehicles that are purchased for personal use. The Virginia law applies even if the vehicle was purchased in another state.

The period covered is the first 18 months after the original date of delivery of the motor vehicle to the consumer, not the date the vehicle was ordered.

Lemons Defined

To justify relief, one of the following must occur:

✦ An authorized dealer, or the manufacturer, attempted to repair the same defect or a condition that "significantly impairs the use, market value or safety" of a vehicle, and it was not fixed after three tries.



Steven Chucala is chief of client services in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at Fort Belvoir, Va.

- It has a safety defect that was not fixed after one try.

- The vehicle has been out of service due to repair for a cumulative total of 30 days during the last 18 months.

Customer Responsibilities:

Customers must protect themselves from the moment they purchase a vehicle by familiarizing themselves with the warranty book, understanding its provisions and complying with the stated requirements. As proof that you've met these requirements, do the following:

- Keep copies of all repair bills or work orders, even if the repairs were free.

- Request copies of the repair voucher each time the vehicle is turned in for repair, and verify that it clearly indicates the defect, the date and the odometer mileage.

- Keep records of all maintenance performed, including oil changes.

What you say to an auto dealer is also a key factor in protecting yourself. Always tell the dealer what the difficulties are and have the dealer diagnose the defect. Don't tell the dealer what to replace or how to repair the vehicle. Make sure that the problems you describe are noted on the work order. To qualify for relief in a lemon case, you must be able to prove that the conditions you described have not been fixed.

You must notify the manufacturer if a problem persists and you no longer wish to continue repair attempts. This can be done by telephone but should be followed by a certified, return-signature letter describing the problem condition. Be sure to include copies of the repair orders, and be prepared to request one of your available options. Also be sure to keep records of all communications with the manufacturer.

Options? What Options?

Under the warranty agreement, the manufacturer or its agents are obligated to "conform" the vehicle to the warranty. If, through careful record keeping, you can verify nonconformance, the manufacturer must:

- Replace the motor vehicle with a comparable motor vehicle acceptable to the consumer, or

- Accept return of the motor vehicle and refund the full purchase price to the consumer and any lien holder, including all collateral charges and incidental damage costs, less a reasonable allowance for the consumer's use of the vehicle up to the date of the first notice of nonconformity.

The consumer has the unconditional right to choose a refund rather than a replacement vehicle and to drive the defective motor vehicle until either the replacement vehicle or a refund is received.

Legal Assistance

Should the manufacturer refuse to grant either of these options, you still have avenues for relief. One choice is to file a civil suit. Legal-assistance attorneys do not litigate such actions, but can help clients find law firms that are skilled at such litigation. Another avenue is through arbitration/dispute-resolution programs offered by each manufacturer.

It is the consumer's choice whether to arbitrate or litigate. If arbitration results in favor of the consumer for either a refund or a comparable motor vehicle, the manufacturer has 40 days from the receipt of the consumer's acceptance of the decision, or from the date of the court order, to comply with the decision. Virginia law provides for the court to triple the value of the award and grant additional relief if the manufacturer fails to comply.



Court action permits the following costs to be recovered:

- Reasonable attorney fees.
- Court costs.

- Purchase price of vehicle.

- Such collateral charges as sales tax, license fees, interest, transportation charges, dealer-preparation charges and service-contract charges.



Story by
SPC Bill Putnam

Fast Track

RECRUITING new Soldiers can be a challenge, so the U.S. Army Accessions Command reached out to the country's fastest-growing sport for help.

The NASCAR season that ended in November with a race at Homestead racetrack in Florida marked the first year the Army has sponsored a Winston-Cup Series NASCAR team. So far, the results have been pretty good, said LTG Dennis Cavin, the commander of the U.S. Army Accessions Command.

"When we looked at the potential it provided, it just made a lot of sense," he said.

Since the sponsorship began a year ago, almost 40,000 recruiting leads have come from the traveling exhibits and recognition from the team sponsorship at NASCAR races. And a few of the potential recruits enlisted in the Army, Cavin said.

SPC Bill Putnam works for Army News Service at the Pentagon.

NASCAR, with its 41 races, is the second most-watched sport on TV and the fastest-growing sport in the nation, he said.

Sponsoring a racing team isn't new for the Army. The service currently sponsors a National Hot Rod Association team, which has been "very productive" for recruiting.

"The value of Army sponsorship is that when that car goes around the track and America's watching it on television, it's not a motor oil, it's not a product, it's an institution that's backing the drivers," he said. "The U.S. Army is on that track, being represented."

SFC Barry Dunnigan, an Army recruiter, also favors the Army role in NASCAR.

By sponsoring a NASCAR team, the Army is drawing people in and introducing them to the Army, Dunnigan said. As many as 120,000 people watch some of the races, and a majority are within the Army's 17-



to-24 target age group for recruits, he said.

Dunnigan drives an 18-wheel truck that hauls the simulator trailers that are present at sporting events around the country. Those simulators and the Army-sponsored team have really advertised what the Army has to offer, he said.

Some trailers have tank, helicopter and air-gun ranges inside. The

◀ The Army race team pit crew races to top off the car's gas tank and replace the tires during the Homestead race's first pit stop. This stop was finished in just over five seconds.

Recruiting



Homestead race boasted a NASCAR simulator.

At every stop on the NASCAR circuit, Dunnigan said, five or six people asked how they could get into the Army and participate in NASCAR events. Some aren't within the Army's targeted age group; they are parents or family friends who can influence a potential recruit's decision to sign up, he said.

"They go home and tell their kids, 'This is what you can do,'" Dunnigan said.

The Army will continue sponsoring the NASCAR team this year, and

Cavin said he's excited about Joe Nemechek coming back as the team's driver.

Nemechek finished 17th in the Homestead race and in the top 20 in each of four races he ran in 2003 in the Army car.

Recruiting new Soldiers will only become more challenging in the future, Cavin said. The Army faces two challenges in the area: one, the country's improving economy makes recruiting a little harder, Cavin said. And as the commitment of troops to Iraq continues, parents may not want to encourage their children to enlist,

▲ (Top) Joe Nemechek, the Army driver for only four races this season, will return next NASCAR season as the Army car's driver. Nemechek finished 17th in the Homestead race.

▲ Army 01 zooms past the pit area during a race. By sponsoring a NASCAR team, the Army is drawing people in and introducing them to the Army. As many as 120,000 people watch some of the races.

he said.

But the Army will continue to meet its recruiting goals, Cavin said. "We'll still go find America's brightest and best to put on the uniform of a Soldier." ■

Former First **Sergeant** Guides Soldiers To Success

WHEN he walked into the orderly room at Company C., the airborne pathfinder barked at the first Soldier he saw, demanding to know why the specialist didn't call the company to "at ease."

Thomas Cruise had just arrived at his new duty station at Fort Rucker, Ala., and no one at Co. C knew what they were in for. But soon enough they would learn all about their new first sergeant. At first they would fear, then loath him. Later, they would come to admire and respect him. And while in charge, he would carve a path that many of his soldiers would follow.

Over the next 25 years, 15 Co. C, 1st Battalion, 509th Infantry Regiment Soldiers would be promoted to sergeant major. And each credits their former first sergeant for their success.

CSM Thomas Cruise (Ret.) was the Co. C first sergeant from 1978 to 1980. During his tenure he led and guided his Soldiers to aspire to bigger and better things.

"He was the epitome of a leader — if you look it up in the dictionary, there's his picture," said CSM Angel Febles, a former member of the unit.

"He was the type of NCO that you would follow to hell and back," said CSM James Boyett (Ret.). "His mentorship guided us in the right direction. He saw where we had been and where we needed to go. I knew him very well. I worked with him on a day-to-day basis," said Boyett, former operations sergeant for the company.

Cruise joined the Army in 1961 as an infantryman. He later served with units such as the 101st Airborne Division, the 2nd Inf. Div., the Vietnamese rangers, the 24th Inf. Div., the 1st Ranger Bn. and as a drill sergeant at Fort Jackson, S.C.

"I was raised by the 101st. I was raised by NCOs from World War II and Korea. They instilled in me very strict discipline, pride for the uniform and attention to detail," said Cruise.

SPC Matthew Roe is assigned to the Fort Rucker Public Affairs Office.

"When I got to Fort Rucker, there were 124 men with very poor appearances. But with discipline and hard work as a team, they got it together, and it was one of the greatest units I ever served with."

"You will never find a person more willing to stand up for his men, whether they were right or wrong," said Steven Webster, a former Soldier in the unit.

Cruise left his mark on the soldiers he led and mentored. Whether they stayed in the Army or got out, many kept in touch with him. His leadership style and mentorship were passed on to his troops who have, in turn, passed it on to their Soldiers.

"The way he guided me is the way I try to guide my Soldiers," said Boyett, who has also mentored a Soldier to the rank of CSM.

The impression Cruise made on his men is still evident more than 20 years later.


"He was a man's man and a Soldier's Soldier. He was probably the best Soldier the Army ever produced," said Webster.

"He always had a no-nonsense, take-charge attitude. He told us what we were doing and where we were going — there was no doubt in your mind that he was in charge," said Mark Higginson, former company member.

"He was very firm but fair. He was a very demanding leader, but always led by example," said SGM Peter Motta (Ret.).

One thing Cruise demanded was that his Soldiers always work as a team.

"He set the standard, and we have followed in his path," said Febles.

As a way to thank their mentor, Febles and other former Co. C Soldiers honored Cruise by making him a lifetime member of the 509th Inf. Regt. "I am happy without a question. It's an honor for the soldiers to do this for me," said Cruise, during a Co. C reunion event. 



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Road to the Olympics

CPT Anita Allen



Photo by Tim Hipps

CPT Anita Allen became the first member of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program to qualify for the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens, Greece, by winning the modern pentathlon during the Pan American Games XIV in the Dominican Republic. Allen, a Medical Service Corps officer, has been competing in the pentathlon since 2001.

WCAP is one of 50 morale, welfare and recreation programs the Army provides soldiers and families worldwide through the U.S. Army Community & Family Support Center.

